DAWN OF DC

THE FLASH

2

[LEGACY #802]

SPURRIER
DEODATO JR.
MULVIHILL

SIEGE OF THE STILLNESS

13+
TEEN

THE RETURN OF SUPERMAN

30TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

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DC

October

An oversize anniversary one-shot

New stories written by the original "The Return of Superman" creative team

DAN JURGENS • LOUISE SIMONSON • JERRY ORDWAY • KARL KESEL

Art by

TRAVIS MOORE • DAN JURGENS • BRETT BREEDING

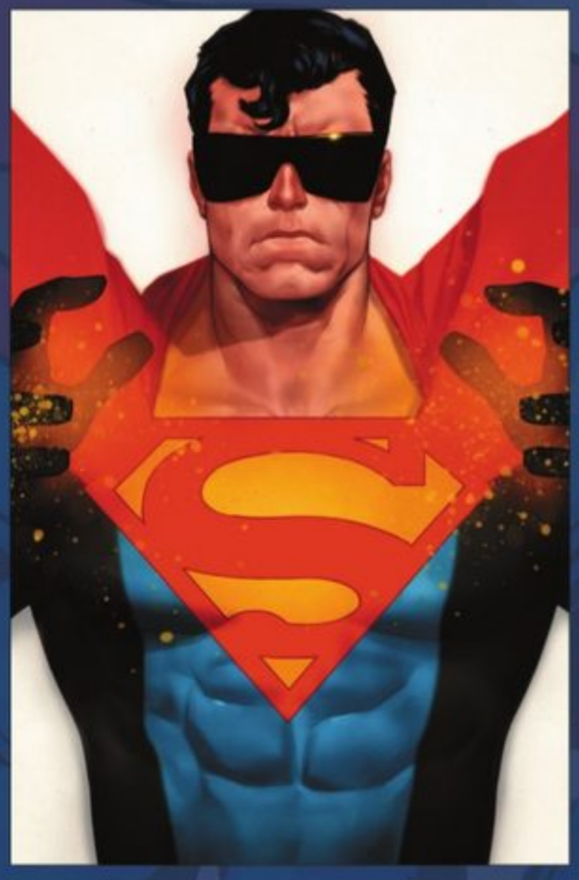
JON BOGDANOVE • JERRY ORDWAY • TOM GRUMMETT

THE RETURN OF SUPERMAN

30TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

CELEBRATE THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY WITH THESE ICONIC VARIANT COVERS

COLLECT ALL THE VARIANT COVERS HONORING THE MAN OF STEEL'S ICONIC RETURN.



Eradicator by **BEN OLIVER**

Steel by **DAVE WILKINS**

Superboy by **FRANCIS MANAPUL**

Cyborg Superman by **JOHN GIANG**

1:25 cover by **BRAD WALKER**

1:50 cover by **JON BOGDANOVE**

October

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NATURE LOVES A PATTERN.

SAME'S TRUE OF TIME.

HISTORY REPEATS, Y'KNOW? LIKE A CATCHY REFRAIN.

EXAMPLE--

A MONTH AGO I RAN INTO EVAN McCULLOCH-- A.K.A. MIRROR MASTER.

ALL LEVELLED UP WITH NEW TECH.

SNEAKY RAT TRICKED ME INTO AN ATOMIC MIRROR. FRITZED MY POWERS. GLITCHED ME RIGHT OUT OF REALITY.

BUT THE WORST PART...?

IT WASN'T THE ALIEN HORROR. WASN'T THE PAIN. IT WAS FEELING OUT OF CONTROL.

LISTEN: SPEED'S WHAT I DO. I DANCE THROUGH TIME LIKE A GHOST AMONG STATUES.

KNOCK ME SIDEWAYS, CHANGE THE RACE...

...WHAT'S THE POINT OF ME?

YAAAAAAGH!

Well. McCULLOCH AND HIS TECH VANISHED. LIFE WENT ON.

I FORGOT ALL ABOUT THAT MOMENT OF...

...smallness...

...THAT GLIMPSE OF HOW LITTLE I KNOW.

HOW LITTLE I MATTER.

I thought it was just a blip.

BUT NATURE LOVES A PATTERN.

AND HISTORY LOVES TO REPEAT.

Wh-wh-what are you?

What do you want?

NO ANSWER.

LET'S PENCIL IN "NONVERBAL ABOMINATION FROM BETWEEN REALITIES", FOR NOW.

ENG

Nnn... nnnnuuh

AS FOR WHAT IT WANTS...

AAIEEIIS

Wh-what the hell...?

IT **SHREDS** THE APE. RIPS HER UP ALONG LINES AND ANGLES THAT DON'T MAKE SENSE.

FIRST THAT KID **CHAD**, NOW THIS. ANSWERS CAN WAIT. TIME TO **ACT.**

FLASH FACT: I CAN'T DO WHAT I DO WITHOUT MY **AURA.** A **BUBBLE** OF SPACE-TIME, ACCELERATED TO THE SAME VELOCITY AS ME.

I'M **WALLY WEST.**

I'M THE FASTEST MAN ALIVE.

Faster. Stronger. Break every barrier...

no nonono notnowfocus focus FOCUS

LETS ME BREATHE. LETS SOUND WAVES REACH ME. STOPS ME GETTING SKOOSHED LIKE A BUG ON A WINDSHIELD BY AIR PRESSURE AND FRICTION...

THAT IS--

--IF MY POWERS ARE BEHAVING THEMSELVES...

AND WHEN YOU'VE SPENT AS LONG AS **ME** HONING YOUR SKILLS-- LEARNING TO **TENSE** THESE ENERGIES LIKE FIBERS IN MUSCLE--

--THEN... WITH A LITTLE **GRIT**--

--YOU CAN BE THE WINDSHIELD.

HA!

SHLIP SHLURP

Ah, nuts.

IT REBUILDS ITSELF LIKE ROT IN REVERSE. LIKE MAGNETS MADE OF MEAT.

IT TRAVELS LIKE NOTHING I'VE SEEN. NO **CONTINUITY OF MOTION.** IT'S NOT REALLY **MOVING** AT ALL.

YOU! IT'S...**NAHODHA,** RIGHT?! YOU'RE, *like,* GRODD'S NUMBER TWO?

WE GOTTA WORK **TOGETHER!**

IT **ITERATES** ITSELF. LIKE A STRING OF PROJECTIONS. LIKE IT'S STEPPING AROUND THE CORNERS OF A BLIND ALLEY NO HUMAN BRAIN CAN IMAGINE.

LIKE--

Like--

Like when I **glitch** *out of the world.*

FOCUS. FOCUS ON NOW.

LISTEN, CAN'T YOU--*I dunno--* **REVERSE THE POLARITY** ON THESE THINGS, OR WHATEVER? DO SOME **SCI-FI** STUFF, AND--

NO NO **NO,** CRIMINAL SCUM, GET OFF! YOU'LL MAKE IT ***DISCHARGE!*** LET GO, LET G--

WAIT! WAIT, **ST--**

Stop.

THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL THOSE **COPS.**

"**STASIS.**"

FROM THE GREEK HISTANAI. "**TO STAND.**"

EXCEPT...

...I'M STILL **THINKING.** TIME'S STILL PASSING--

--OR... SOMETHING **LIKE IT.**

Huh. I **WONDER IF** I'M WHIZZING OFF TO WHO KNOWS WHERE, LIKE EVERYONE **ELSE** THE APES ZAPPED?

THAT...OUGHT TO BE A PRETTY **SCARY** THOUGHT, RIGHT?

Ought to be.

...Mmmm...

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, WAL? YOU'RE THE FASTEST MAN ALIVE.

YOU **LOVE** YOUR JOB.

THE HUSBAND. THE FATHER. THE HERO. THE ROLE MODEL. **PRESSURE?**

WHAT PRESSURE?!

ALWAYS FASTER!

ALWAYS BETTER!

ALWAYS A NEW BARRIER TO BREAK!

I SHOULD BE **BURNING UP** AT ALL THIS **INACTION.** THIS...*powerlessness.* I SHOULD BE DRIVEN MAD BY EMPTY FREAKIN' **INERTIA!**

INSTEAD? ALL I FEEL... ALL I **REALLY** FEEL...

...IS BLISS.

STASIS.

A PERFECT... PEACEFUL... DREAM...

...OF NO EXPECTATIONS...

EXCUSE ME. ARE YOU A ***SENTIENT*** ORGANIC?

...uh...

ARE YOU AWARE THAT YOU'RE IN ***GEO-SYNCHRONOUS*** ORBIT 150 MILLION KILOMETERS ABOVE THE YELLOW DWARF LOCALLY KNOWN AS ***"SOL"***?

DO YOU REQUIRE ASSISTANCE?

I'M--TH-THERE'S-- THERE'S ***NOBODY*** HERE! GET OUT OF MY THOUGHTS! I'M IN ***STASIS.***

"STASIS"? Ha. MOST AMUSING. I'M AFRAID NOT.

WHO ARE YOU...?

Ah, WELL--

--WE'RE THE ONES WHO REALLY OUGHT TO ***KNOW,*** AREN'T WE?

IN ***YOUR*** LANGUAGE I SUPPOSE WE MIGHT BE CALLED...

...Let's see...

THE STILLNESS.

LET'S GET YOU HOME, *mm?*

TIME COMES BACK.

SANITY DOESN'T.

Uh.

Cool cool cool. THANKS FOR THE **ASSIST,** *yeah,* I GUESS. *Just-- uhm...*

...Hrm. WHY **WAS** I IN SPACE, EXACTLY? AND WHAT... **ARE** YOU? AND, *uh--*MORE **GENERAL** POINT--

WHAT THE ABSOLUTE SCREAMING HELL IS GOING ON?!

Hm.

NOT QUITE AS SOPHISTICATED AS WE HOPED, IS HE?

I DOUBT THE **BRANELEAK** WAS DELIBERATE AT ALL.

KRAT

THE-- the *what* now?

ONE THING AT A TIME, SENTIENT ORGANIC. Figuratively speaking.

IF THE **UNCOILED** CANNOT PRIZE OPEN **TESSELLATION POINTS,** THEY WILL ATTEMPT TO REPRODUCE. WE MUST ACT **QUICKLY.**

Figuratively speaking.

SKREE

NOW THEN. ANSWERS.

WAIT.

WAIT, NAHODHA!

DON'T GO-- WE NEED T--

Um.

YOU WERE IN **SPACE** BECAUSE THIS TECHNOLOGY APPLIES A CRUDE FORM OF TEMPORAL LACUNA RELATIVE TO A LOCAL **GRAVITY WELL.**

SPEAK SLOWER. THE ORGANIC IS CONFUSED.

YOU DIDN'T **"FLY"** INTO SPACE. YOU REMAINED **STILL,** RELATIVE TO THE SUN, WHILE YOUR PLANET MOVED ONWARD.

POKE

AS FOR US? WE ARE **EXPLORERS,** OF A SORT.

PRESENTLY WE SEEK TO STUDY A CLASS OF **ENTITY** QUITE INCOMPREHENSIBLE TO YOUR SENTIENT ORGANIC MIND. IN YOUR TONGUE THEY WOULD BE--*hmm*--

THE ARC ANGLES.

HOLY HOLY

HOLY HOLY

HOLY HOLY

HOLY HOLY

HOLY HOLY

HOLY HOLY

D-DON'T YOU MEAN... ARCHANGELS?

NO. WE DO NOT.

WE HAD ASSUMED THE TEMPORAL DISRUPTIONS ON THIS WORLD WERE YOUR ATTEMPT TO LURE SUCH A BEING?

THIS WASN'T ***ME!*** I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE HELL THESE DUMB ***APES*** ARE D--

Mm. Ah well.

WASTE NOT, WANT NOT.

YOU CLEARLY HAVE A LOT TO LEARN, SENTIENT ORGANIC.

I DON'T THINK IT FATHOMS ***ANY*** OF THE FORCES IT'S SPENT DECADES ***TOYING WITH...*** I DOUBT IT EVEN REALIZES THE ***DAMAGE*** IT CAUSES TO THE BRANEPATHS...

NAIVE. RECKLESS. OVERWHELMED BY THE POTENCY AND COMPLEXITY OF ITS OWN POWERS.

A FAILED PILGRIM. WE WILL KEEP AN ***EYE.***

GOODBYE, SENTIENT ORGANIC. I EXPECT WE'LL BE IN TOUCH VERY SOON.

Figuratively speaking.

THE FLASH

ISSUE TWO

"STEPPING OUT"

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SI SPURRIER

ARTIST:
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COLORIST:
TRISH MULVIHILL

LETTERER:
HASSAN OTSMANE-ELHAOU

COVER BY:
MIKE DEODATO JR. & TRISH MULVIHILL

VARIANT COVERS BY:
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BJÖRN BARENDS
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Hey.

WHO'S--

Huh.

...Wally...

...M...make... the piper stop...

...t-till time stands st...

...s...

Ssssh. IT'S OKAY. IT'S JUST A **DREAM.** YOU'RE SAFE. I'M HERE, HONEY.

Bees.

Honey.

INTRUDER DETECTED!

INTRUDER DETECTED!

INTRUDER DETECTED!

Wuh--

HOLT! NOT MUCH TIME. BRINGING YOU INTO THE AURA. IF ANYONE CAN KEEP UP, IT'S YOU.

MAP! NEED THE MAP! PLACES GRODD'S BEEN HITTING!

S-security system stand down.

LOOK! IT'S A CELL! CORNERS OF A POLYGON!

BEST GUESS, HE'S MESSING WITH OTHER REALITIES! MOST EFFICIENT SHAPE FOR TESSELLATING! LIKE HONEYCOMB!

NATURE LOVES A PATTERN!

A HEXAGON.

DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENS IF HE FINISHES THE SHAPE-- IF HE DOES HIS "CALCULATIONS" AT ALL THE CORNERS-- BUT--

--AT LEAST WE KNOW WHERE HE'LL HIT NEXT.

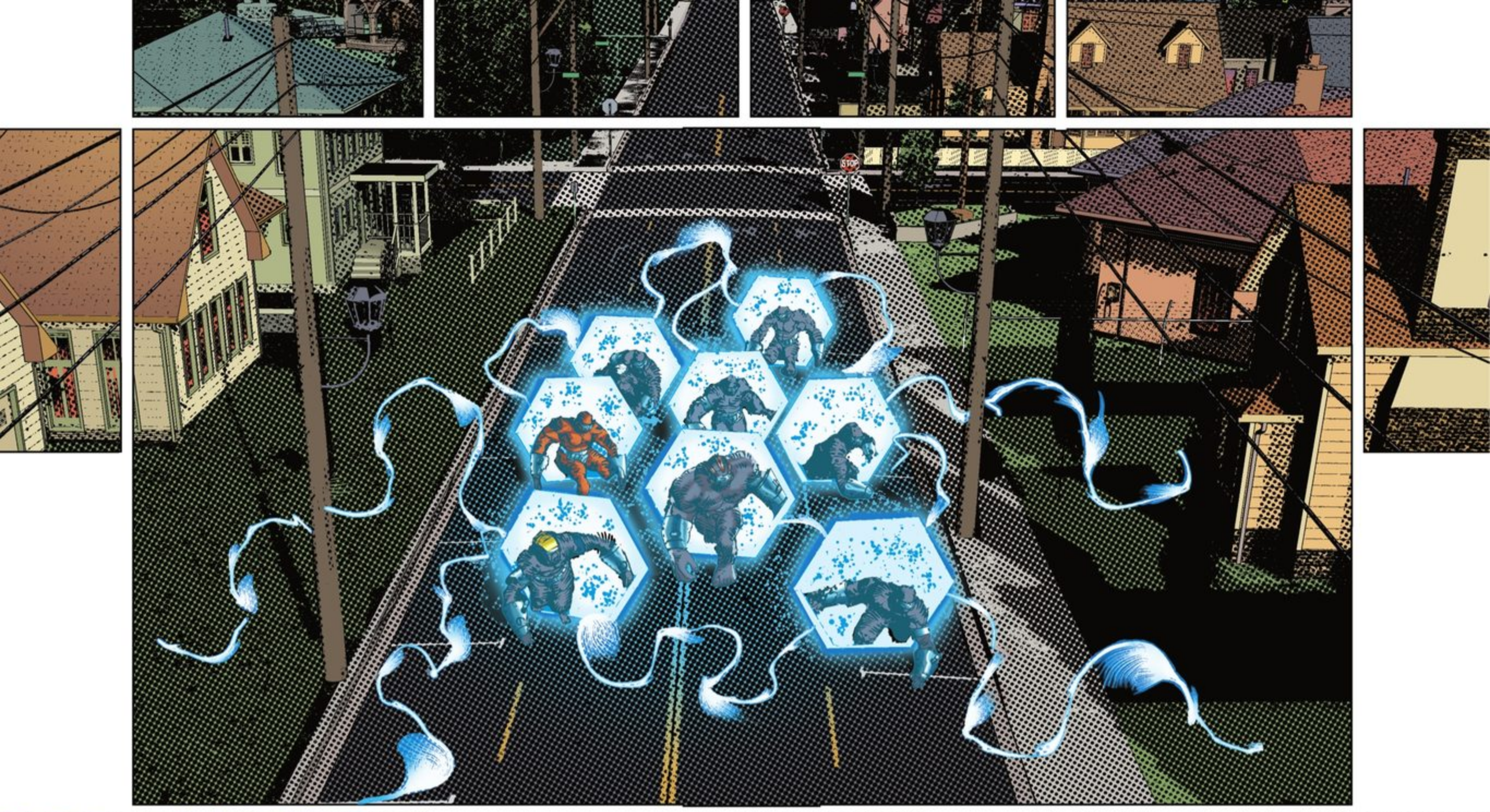
SMART SPEEDSTERS DON'T CHASE.

THEY GET AHEAD.

AN AMBUSH.

T-SPHERES. TRANQUILIZER DARTS. Coffee.

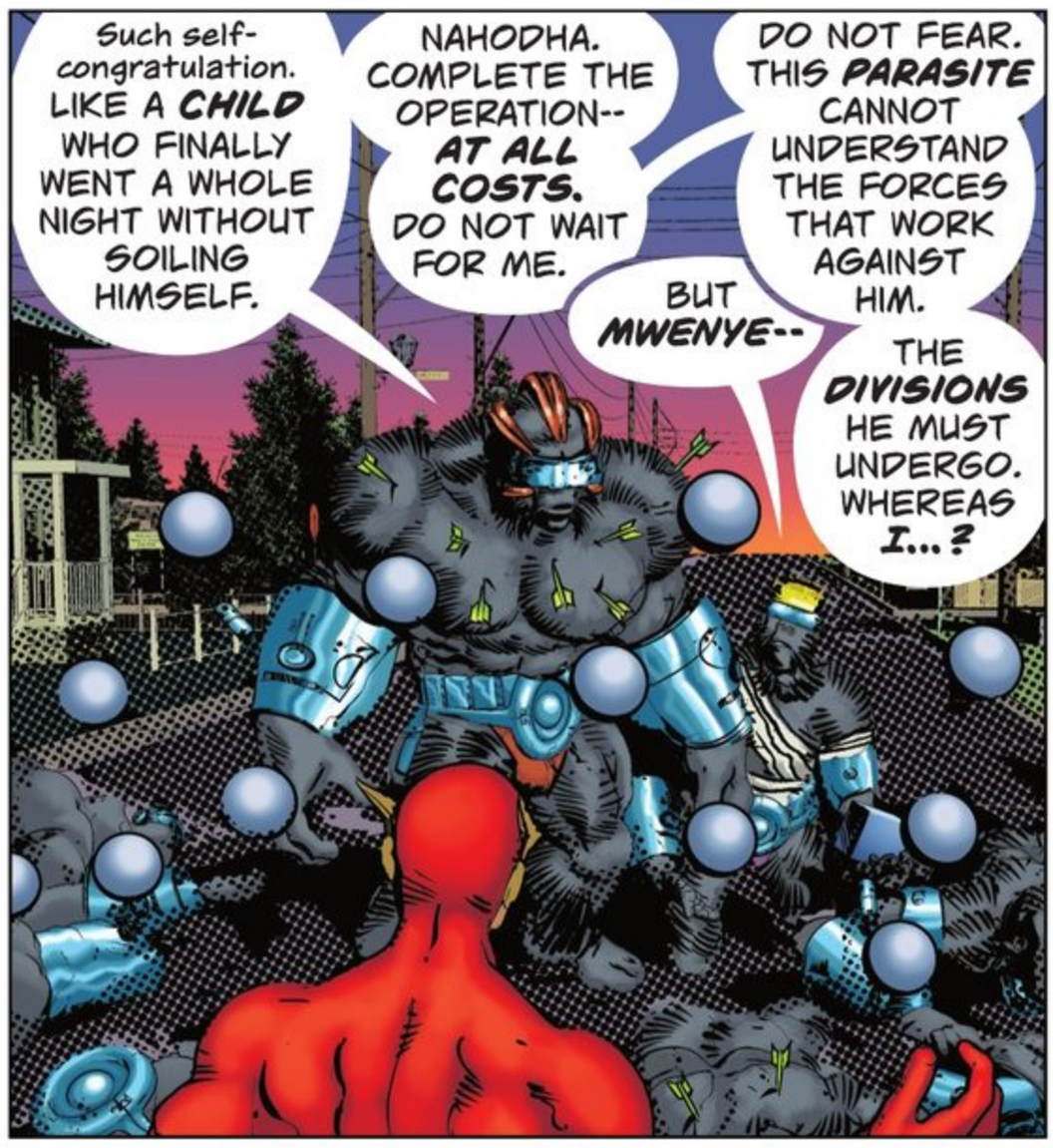
GO.


STOP

HURRY. THIS IS THE FINAL NODE. GET THE ASSET CALCULATING ANGLES AND--
THWIP
THWIP
THWIP
THWIP
THWIP

--clear the streets.
Hrr.
ARE YOU THERE, GRODD?

IT'S ME, FLASH.
(Always wanted to say that.)


Such self-congratulation. LIKE A CHILD WHO FINALLY WENT A WHOLE NIGHT WITHOUT SOILING HIMSELF.
NAHODHA. COMPLETE THE OPERATION-- AT ALL COSTS. DO NOT WAIT FOR ME.
BUT MWENYE--
DO NOT FEAR. THIS PARASITE CANNOT UNDERSTAND THE FORCES THAT WORK AGAINST HIM.
THE DIVISIONS HE MUST UNDERGO. WHEREAS I...?

I AM THE CHOSEN OF THE MIUNGU!

YEAH. GREAT AMBUSH, WAL.

HE'S TOO FAST.

TOO PREPARED.

JUST LIKE MIRROR MASTER-- LEVELED UP IN WAYS I CAN'T FIGURE.

I THOUGHT I HAD HIM.

I THOUGHT I COULD STOP WHATEVER HE'S DOING, BUT--

--how did it go?

"NAIVE. RECKLESS. OVERWHELMED BY THE POTENCY AND COMPLEXITY OF ITS OWN POWERS.

"A FAILED PILGRIM."

UNLESS.

Stop.

STOP RUNNING.

MY CONNECTION TO THE SPEED FORCE HAS CARRIED ME TO DISTANT WORLDS. ALTERNATE UNIVERSES. POCKET REALITIES.

FRANKLY, I'D BE PRETTY MUCH **UNSTOPPABLE**--

--IF I WAS THE **ONLY ONE** HOOKED UP TO THAT POWER.

BUT **THIS** IS DIFFERENT. THIS...

...thing...

...THAT'S BEEN HAPPENING TO ME LATELY...

Huh.

IT'S NOT SPEED. IT'S NOT **INTANGIBILITY**. IT'S NOT TRAVELING **TO** ANYWHERE.

IT'S JUST...

...STEPPING OUT.

OUT OF **EVERY-THING**. PHYSICS AND DISTANCE AND VIBRATION.

OUT OF **TIME**. OUT OF THE THREAD OF MY OWN **STORY**.

AND THAT WOULD BE TERRIFYING--

--IF NOT FOR ONE LITTLE DETAIL I ONLY JUST FIGURED OUT.

I CAN STEP BACK IN WHENEVER I LIKE.

STOP.

I DON'T KNOW **WHERE** OR **HOW.** I DON'T KNOW WHAT IMPOSSIBLE **PLANES** I CROSS, OR HOW DEEP I CAN GO--

--BUT I **DO** KNOW THIS ISN'T SPEED.

THIS ISN'T A **BATTLE** AT THE BRITTLE EDGE OF THE LIGHT BARRIER.

IT'S A **DISSECTION.**

MWENYE! THE CALCULATION IS COMPL...

Oh.

FLASH? THIS IS HOLT-- WHAT JUST HAPPENED? MY SPEED FORCE MONITORS LIT UP LIKE **DISCO NIGHT** AT THE **BATCAVE,** AND--

...Damn. TOO LATE.

...TOO LATE FOR WHAT?

I DON'T KNOW. WH-WHATEVER GRODD WAS DOING. The calculations... The corners of the cell...

MICHAEL-- THIS PATTERN THEY'VE MARKED ON MY CITY...

...WHAT'S IN THE CENTER?

I KNOW YOU'VE GONE THROUGH SOME STUFF LATELY, AND... I MEAN--NOBODY CAN BLAME YOU, TAKING SOME TIME AWAY FROM YOUR POWERS.

I JUST... I WANT YOU TO KNOW YOU CAN TALK TO ME, OKAY? ABOUT ANYTHING.

IN HONOR OF THOSE WHO RUN SO THAT ALL MAY RISE

ALL RIGHT, SWEETHEART-- LISTEN...

...

BARRY?

BARRY ALLEN, IF YOU'RE PRETENDING THERE'S NO SIGNAL AGAIN SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO OPEN UP ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS, SO HELP ME I'LL--

NO-- IT'S--IT'S FINE, IRIS. I'M RIGHT HERE.

I'M LISTENING.

TO BE CONTINUED...

★ CORRUPTED! ABANDONED! ★

THE DARK KNIGHT FIGHTS FOR HIS LIFE IN A GOTHAM UNDER SIEGE

WRITTEN BY **RAM V**

ART BY **JASON SHAWN ALEXANDER**

A 5-PART
BIWEEKLY STORY
OCTOBER

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. GODZILLA VS. KONG

INTERVIEW WITH ARTIST
CHRISTIAN DUCE

The creatures from Legendary's Monsterverse have invaded the DC Universe! Get ready for iconic matchups between heroes and beasts as all-out war rages through the DCU. This week, we sat down with artist Christian Duce to uncover what we can expect from this crossover, debuting in October and written by Brian Buccellato.

Fans know your work on DC characters—how much of a Godzilla and Kong fan were you coming into this series?

I grew up loving the Godzilla animated series and the Super Friends when I was a kid in the '80s. During this time I also dreamed about becoming an artist. So as an adult, having the opportunity to draw all these characters makes the younger version of me very happy!

Brian Buccellato has carefully crafted a story that brings these two mega-franchises crashing together. What's it like collaborating with him on this series?

Brian is a great writer! I love the way he sees everything and the techniques he uses to make the story come alive. I have to also mention the colorist on the project, Luis Guerrero, as his work is unbelievably good! Also, our editor, Ben Abernathy, "the director of the symphony," has been fantastic. It's an honor for me to work with this amazing team.

Which matchup between hero and monster are you most excited to draw?

It's difficult for me to choose, believe me... but I think that drawing Superman versus Godzilla is what I enjoy the most.

What was it like balancing the art style between two different universes in one series?

The hardest part is to keep the scale consistent. As an artist I have to find a way to map out interesting shots of *huge* monsters balanced against smaller heroes. I have to think a lot about the way to tell the story, but so far I feel very comfortable with it.

Do you have a favorite page or panel from the first issue?

The two-page spread where we see Godzilla appearing for the first time. It was the beginning of everything!

DON'T MISS *JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. GODZILLA VS. KONG*, ON SALE THIS OCTOBER!

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SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN... THIS MONSTER!"